

## German Center Continues To Push Eastward After The Retreating Muscovite Army

STRAIN HAS BEEN SO GREAT THAT A LULL IS EXPECTED IN POLAND.

KAISER'S TROOPS CONTINUE TO BE ON THE DEFENSIVE IN WESTERN ARENA.

TEUTONS ARE CONCENTRATING FORCES TO BREAK THROUGH TO FRENCH COAST.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—The center of the German line in Russian Poland having occupied Lodz, it is continuing to push on to the eastward after the retreating Russians, according to official announcement made in Berlin. Nevertheless the strain on both sides has been terrific and losses heavy so that a lull, probably soon will set in on this part of the eastern battle front while the troops recuperate.

The Russians continue to assert that their retreat from Lodz was a necessity, rather than a defeat, but it will take further developments to show whether this claim is correct or not. Twice driven back from Warsaw, the Germans again are in position to advance on the capital of Russian Poland and even the British press, while minimizing the importance of the taking of Lodz, points out that it is on the trunk line railroad between Kalisz and Warsaw, which line is now held by the invaders, probably to a point considerably to the east of the occupied city.

Viewing the fighting in the vicinity of Lodz, it now appears that Germany had a victory almost within her grasp and lost it by not being able to unite her forces while later the Russians were successful in gaining a dominant position which they could not hold.

In the western arena it would appear, still generally true, that the Germans are more on the defensive than the offensive. The news that they have made a violent attack to the south of Ypres indicates that they have not abandoned the idea of breaking through to the French coast and it is said that the pick of the German western army has been concentrated for this latest effort.

The fate of General Byers in South Africa has not yet been absolutely cleared up. If he is dead, as believed, it will remove the last of the important South African rebels. General DeWett is a prisoner. Colonel Maritz a fugitive, and most of the commands have been broken up.

### King of Saxony Arrives in Brussels

By Associated Press.  
LONDON, Dec. 9.—A dispatch from an Amsterdam correspondent says the King of Saxony has arrived in Brussels. This information reaches Amsterdam in a dispatch from the Belgian capital.

Recent dispatches from Copenhagen said that the King of Saxony was going to Belgium to encourage the troops and represent Emperor William during his majesty's absence in the eastern arena of the war.



Western Pennsylvania—Snow or rain tonight and Thursday. Colder south portion tonight.

West Virginia—Snow or rain to night and Thursday somewhat colder.

### READ THE WEST VIRGINIAN

It is on sale each evening at the following places:

- FAIRMONT.
  - Fairmont News Agency, Monroe street.
  - Marion News Agency, Main street.
  - A. G. Martin's News Agency, Main street.
  - J. H. McCloskey, Drug Store, Locust avenue.
  - Hamilton Drug Co., Tenth street.
  - Moran and Springer, Water street.
  - J. B. Rose, Main St. and Parks avenue.
  - Holt's Novelty Store, Main street.
- MANNINGTON.
  - Clarence Fisher, Grocer, Market and Columbia Sts., First ward.
  - Howard C. Cunningham, Grocer, Morgantown Ave., near Owens' Works.
- SMITH AND MILLAN NEWS AGENCY.
- FARMINGTON.
  - F. G. Gray, Grocer.

### CHOLERA SPREADING FAST IN AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

ROTTERDAM (via London), Dec. 9.—The Berlin board of health, according to information reaching here, reported 36 cases of cholera in Germany during the month of November. In Austria, especially in Galicia, the cholera is spreading rapidly, 344 cases being reported during the first week of November and of diphtheria 331 deaths.

There were 90 deaths in Hungary during the same week there were 532 cases of cholera.

### Official Statement For Today

By Associated Press.

FRENCH.  
PARIS, Dec. 9.—An official French statement issued in Paris this afternoon says:

"During the day of December 8, there was artillery fighting from the sea coast to the Lys. In the region of Arras and further to the south there was nothing to report. All the positions won by us during the past two days have been organized and consolidated. In the region of Alsace, artillery exchanges resulted advantageously for us. In the Argonne the activity of our artillery and fighting by our infantry resulted in appreciable gains for us. Several German trenches were occupied and we made progress along the entire front, with the exception of a single point. Here the enemy blew up one of our trenches with a mine. On the heights of the Meuse our artillery showed itself distinctly the master of artillery of the enemy. In this region, as well as in the Argonne we have made progress along the entire front. The same thing happened in the forests of Le Petre.

In the Vosges, we repulsed several attacks to the northwest of Soissons. In the remainder of the besiegement of the Vosges the enemy made no endeavor during the day of yesterday to deliver any serious attacks on the positions occupied by us last week.

"In Galicia the Austrians, who appeared to have received German reinforcements, have resumed the offensive in the region of Neu Sandec to the south of Cracow, against the Russian left wing.

"The Serbian armies are making progress in Upper Valley of Western Morava and on the left bank of the river Ljda. They have taken possession of the heights of Meljen, capturing numerous prisoners and also many cannon from the enemy. In the region of Kosmaj the Serbians are in contact with the Austrian troops."

### GERMAN.

PARIS, via London, Dec. 9.—The official statement issued by the German army headquarters this afternoon says: "To the west of Rheims a fisher, although flying the red cross flag, has been captured and set on fire by our troops, as we ascertained by means of photographs taken by our aviators that behind the fishery was hidden a French battery. French attacks in districts around Souain and on the villages of Barennes and Vouquiers in the eastern part of Argonne were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy.

"In the front of Argonne itself ground has been gained in several places. On this occasion we took prisoners. The French suffered heavy losses in battles reported yesterday to the north of Nancy. Our losses were comparatively small.

"In Northern Poland our troops are in close touch with the Russians, who have come to a standstill in fortified positions.

"East of the Warta the fighting for Lowicz continues.

"In Southern Poland Austro-Hungarian troops are fighting side by side with our troops and have successfully renewed the attacks.

### Trains Collide and Engineer is Killed

By Associated Press.  
ROYERFORD, Pa., Dec. 9.—The Philadelphia and Reading railway night express running between Williamsport, Pa., and Philadelphia, was partly wrecked near here early today when it collided with a coal train, resulting in the death of the engineer of the coal train and the serious injury of three other members of the two crews. None of the passengers were injured. The dead engineer was C. M. Fisher, of Reading.

### Why Have Two Telephone Companies?

THE QUESTION WILL BE DISCUSSED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

LARGE ATTENDANCE DESIRED AT MONTHLY MEETING ON THURSDAY NIGHT.

Why have two telephone companies operating in Fairmont, will be the subject of an interesting discussion at the regular monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce on Thursday evening of this week. It has been rumored for some time about the city that an effort was being made to have the Bell Telephone Co. take over the interests of the Consolidated Company and this rumor, which has probably been the cause of the business interests of the city to think seriously about the matter. At any rate the matter will be discussed at the meeting and the feeling of the people will be more thoroughly ascertained.

A special effort is being made upon the part of the Chamber of Commerce to have a large attendance on the meeting night and a postal card announcing the session is being sent to every member.

Another interesting subject which will come up for discussion is Fairmont at the Pacific-Panama Exposition. A special session of the chamber was held a short time ago to consider the proposition of having moving pictures made to be exhibited at the exposition, but at that meeting the question was not fully decided and left open until some future date. As the time when the final decision must be made is rapidly drawing to a close, it is probable that action will be taken tomorrow evening.

### Kaiser Has Pneumonia

HE IS ALSO AFFLICTED WITH NERVOUS DEPRESSION FROM OVERWORK.

By Associated Press.  
LONDON, Dec. 9.—Emperor William is suffering from pneumonia, which is combined with nervous depression due to over-exertion, according to the Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company. The message adds that the Emperor's doctors have advised him not to return to the front.

### POINCARÉ REACHES PARIS.

PARIS, Dec. 9.—President Poincaré and Premier Viviani arrived in Paris today from Bordeaux. Foreign Minister Delcasse and members of the diplomatic corps were to follow them later in the day.

## MARION COUNTY REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS ENDORSED JOHN G. PRICHARD

LOCAL MAN GETS STRONG SUPPORT IN FIGHT FOR CLERK OF HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

RESOLUTIONS ARE PASSED THAT WILL AID IN HIS CAMPAIGN TO LAND PLACE.

APPLICANT IS WELL QUALIFIED FOR THE POSITION TO WHICH HE ASPIRES.

The Marion County Republican executive committee has added the strength of its endorsement to the candidacy of Mr. John G. Prichard for the clerkship of the House of Delegates and has passed the following resolutions in his behalf:

"Whereas, Hon. J. G. Prichard, of Marion county, is a candidate for re-election as clerk of the West Virginia House of Delegates, and

Whereas, this committee knows Mr. Prichard to be a loyal, enthusiastic, hard working Republican, ready and willing at all times to give his services to the interests of the Republican party; one whose ability and diligence made him a particularly efficient clerk at the last session of the House, and whose ability and experience together will undoubtedly make

### Condemnation Proceedings Completed

M. M. FOSTER ET AL. ARE AWARDED \$4,800 DAMAGES BY COMMISSION.

B. & N. WITNESSES STATED PROPERTY WAS WORTH \$2,000.

The condemnation proceedings of the Buckhannon and Northern Railroad Company vs. M. M. Foster et al. was finished at noon today when the commission which was appointed by the Circuit Court to award the damages assessed the amount at \$4,800. The hearing of the witnesses was completed yesterday and the forenoon was spent with the arguments of attorneys for both sides.

The property condemned consisted of a house and lot on Merchant street near the ice plant. Witnesses for the property owners testified that it was worth anywhere from \$7,000 to \$10,000 while witnesses for the railroad company placed the value at about \$2,000.

The railroad company was represented by Attorneys J. W. Mason and W. S. Meredith, while Attorneys Tusca Morris and E. F. Morgan appeared for the defendant.

### Opportunity To Dispose Of Coal Products

MINING INDUSTRY HAS EXCELLENT CHANCES TO SELL OUTPUT.

ONLY HIGH GRADE FUEL CAN BE MARKETING IN EUROPE.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 9.—"The coal mining industry of the United States has an excellent opportunity of disposing of its products in Europe," declared Edward W. Parker, statistician chief of division of mineral resources of the U. S. Geological Survey in a paper read before the coal mining Institute of America at its session today. He asserted that high grade coal only would be available for disposal in that direction. "Germany," the speaker said, "has rather pursued the not unwise policy of using her fuel at home and exporting the manufacturing product bearing the familiar 'made in Germany' stamp. Great Britain's profligacy with her coal supply has had much to do with making her the great maritime nation of the world but she is now beginning to feel the tinge of poverty as to her coal supply. If, when the war is over Great Britain should limit her export trade to the needs of her naval vessels and bunker trade, to what other countries barring the United States, would she look to for their supplies. I cannot say that I am altogether in sympathy with the idea of sending our best coal to the foreign consumers, but my personal predilection has nothing to do with it. If American coal producers want that foreign trade let them go to it and if that outlet helps to take care of our excessive capacity and results in some better returns on coal operators' investments, a few there familiar with the coal mining business that will object."

Discussion followed his paper and then one on the "Last End of Mine Roof" was read by R. G. Hall.

## MYRON T. HERRICK DECORATED WITH GRAND CROSS LEGION OF HONOR BY PRES. PONCAIRE

SCHOOL BOY WANTED INFORMATION FROM HEADQUARTERS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Sammy April, the small boy who supplied President Wilson with newspapers, called on Secretary Tumulty today and asked him what he thought of Mr. Wilson's message to congress. Mr. Tumulty immediately launched into a laudatory discussion of the subject, when he had talked a few minutes he asked:

"But why do you ask, Sammy?" "I have to write a composition on it in school tomorrow," replied the boy, "and I thought I would come to headquarters for information."

### Thirteen Miners Are Killed By An Explosion

THE MEN WERE DESCENDING SHAFT ON THEIR WAY TO WORK.

A BOX OF DYNAMITE BEING LOWERED IN SOME MANNER BLEW UP.

By Associated Press.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 9.—Thirteen mine workers were killed in the Diamond shaft of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Company here today when a box of dynamite being lowered into the mine with fourteen men exploded, wrecking the descending car and dropping the victims to the bottom of the shaft. The one man who escaped alive is Martin Vainaki, a boss driver. The accident occurred at a time when the men were going to work and when the entrance of the mine was crowded with men waiting to be lowered to the various levels.

The carriage had descended to about one hundred feet from the bottom of the shaft when from some unknown cause the dynamite exploded. The cage was ripped to pieces and all the men dropped into the water and mine refuse at the bottom of the shaft. The escape of the boss driver is considered almost miraculous by the mine officials. Nearly all the victims were badly mangled and some torn to pieces, showing that they were instantly killed by the explosion. Among the victims was Thomas Thomas, of West Scranton, a miner who was so decrepit that he was helped into the carriage by some of the men who descended with him.

### Russians Take French Flag

By Associated Press.  
PARIS, Dec. 9.—The emperor of Russia has restored to France a flag, which, since the war of 1870, had been captured by the Russians during their invasion of East Prussia. An official announcement to this effect issued today, says:

"By the order of Emperor Nicholas a French flag, which was captured from the firemen of Traneau in 1870 has been handed over to the French embassy at Petrograd. The flag was found by the Russians in the officers' mess of the Eleventh Prussian Dragoons, which was garrisoned at Lick, East Prussia."

### British Cruiser Off New York

By Associated Press.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—A British warship with four funnels, apparently a cruiser, was seen by shore observers at the Highlands this afternoon. The vessel appeared to be about 12 miles southeast of the Highlands. It is believed that she was the Britannia.

NO DIVIDEND AT THIS TIME.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The board of directors of the New York Central and Hudson River railroad have decided that dividends on the stock of that road, usually payable in January, will not be declared at this time, according to an announcement made today by A. H. Smith, president of the road.

Emblem is on Its Way Across the Ocean—Distinguished Diplomat Receives Highest Honor Within the Gift of French Government in Recognition for Services Rendered by the United States Ambassador to people of France—Only American Ever So Honored.

Captain of Rochambeau Pinned Red Ribbon Emblematic of Special Honor on Mr. Herrick's Coat When Ship Came Inside the Three Mile Limit—Passengers Cheered Him as he Walked Down Gang Plank at Gotham—Would Not Discuss War or Politics.

By Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor is on its way across the sea from the President of France to Myron T. Herrick in recognition of Mr. Herrick's services to the French people while American Ambassador to France.

Mr. Herrick was decorated yesterday with a red ribbon emblematic of the cross by the captain of the steamship Rochambeau, acting on wireless orders from the French Ambassador at Washington, who said he was acting under instruction of President Poincaré.

The decoration was pinned on Mr. Herrick's coat as soon as the steamer reached the three mile limit of American sovereignty.

The announcement of the bestowal of the honor was made when the steamer docked.

The Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor is the highest honor which the French government can bestow. There are, including Mr. Herrick, only fifty-five living persons throughout the world thus decorated.

A spectacular welcome was given the returning ambassador and his wife when the vessel docked. The passengers, nearly all natives of France, lined the rail and cheered as Mr. and Mrs. Herrick walked down the gang plank, and the cheering was taken up by hundreds of persons who had gone to the pier to greet him on behalf of the city, the state, the nation and State of Ohio.

Mr. Herrick declined to talk for publication upon his experiences in France, or to discuss the political situation in this country. Mr. Herrick appeared to be annoyed when he heard that he had been mentioned for the 1916 Republican presidential nomination.

"I do not want to talk politics," he said. "I don't want to talk about such foolishness. If any credit is due me for the small part I have played, I do not want to capitalize it. I did not come home to talk about myself. I am very tired and very broke."

"I have just learned that the Ohio Society has engaged rooms for me at a hotel, for which I will not have to pay. This is the best news I have heard in a long time."

Mr. Herrick declined to hazard a guess as to when the war would end.

Mr. Herrick is the only living American to wear the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor. So far as is known, no other American was ever thus decorated in the 112 years that have passed since the order was created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802. Bonaparte was then First Consul and he created the order to replace the old orders of knighthood which were abolished at the time of the French revolution.

Many Americans have been decorated officers and chevaliers of the Legion—of lower rank in the Grand Cross—in recognition of literary works, their services to France or at the various Paris Expositions.

The holders of the Grand Cross are almost exclusively French ambassadors, generals of the army and vice admirals of the French navy.

### Kills Girl Then Suicides

PETTY NAVAL OFFICER SHOOT GIRL WHO WOULD NOT MARRY HIM.

By Associated Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9.—Jesse Adams, a petty officer on the battleship Illinois, stationed at the Philadelphia navy yards, shot and killed a young woman named Anna Conway at her home here early today and then committed suicide. According to the police Adams shot the girl because she refused to marry him. Adams, whose home address was given as Oakland, Ill., was 25 years old. The girl was 24.

### AGED LADY ILL

Mrs. Thornton M. Nuzum, an aged lady living at Boothsville, is very ill at this time. Mrs. Nuzum, who is 89 years old, is suffering from a severe cold, and her extreme age makes her condition critical.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.  
City taxes are now due and payable at the office of the Treasurer. During December only no interest will be charged. After December 31, 1914, interest will be charged on all unpaid taxes.  
Taxes will be collected as soon as possible by the Treasurer after January 1, 1915.  
Why not call at the office now, save your interest and a visit from the Treasurer.  
J. R. MILLER, Treasurer.

A PAIR OF GLASSES would make a very acceptable Christmas gift. We make up a pair of eye-glasses or spectacles, put them in a nice case suitable for a present, and the recipients may call later and have their eyes properly examined and correct lenses substituted without additional charge.  
Prices \$2.00 to \$7.50.  
A. B. SCOTT & CO., Jewelers and Opticians.